

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 INT-05 EB-08 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 /034 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7821

USDOC WASHDC

AMCONSUL IBADAN

AMCONSUL KADUNA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 4573

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, ENRG, BTIO, NI

SUBJECT: MANAGEMENT NEEDS FOR COAL SECTOR

REF: STATE 88897

1. S. N. UDOFFA , UNDERSECRETARY MINISTRY MINES AND POWER (COAL), AND ALSO MEMBER NIGERIAN COAL CORPORATION (NCC) BOARD, TOLD EMBOFF THAT DECISION WAS TAKEN AT MARCH 30 BOARD MEETING TO ADVERTISE WITHIN NIGERIA FOR THE POST OF GENERAL MANAGER (GM). HE DESCRIBED THIS AS A NECESSARY FIRST STEP TOWARD HIRING AN EXPATRIATE GM. HE SAID NCC WOULD BE THE FIRST GOVERNMENT-OWNED CORPORATION TO DO THIS AND THEY MUST BE WELL ARMED WITH EVIDENCE TO PROVE THAT NO NIGERIAN IS AVAILABLE TO FILL THE POSITION. HE FELT THAT THE ADVERTISEMENT WOULD BE PLACED SHORTLY.

2. EMBOFF ASKDD IF U.S. CORPORATIONS SHOULD BEGIN TO COME FORWARD AND TALK DIRECTLY ABOUT SPECIFIC OFFERS AND COSTS. HE FELT THAT IT WOULD BE WISER IF THEY WOULD WAIT UNTIL ADVERTISE-
MENT WAS RUN.

3. EMBOFF ALSO ENQUIRED ABOUT NEW NIGERIAN STORY THAT ONE OF
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THE TWO MECHANIZED MINES IN ENUGU WAS FLOODED AND MINERS WERE REFUSING TO WORK THE MINE. UDOFFA REPLIED THAT THIS WAS PURE FABRICATION. HE HAD BEEN IN RADIO CONTACT WITH NCC THE DAY BEFORE. NCC OFFICIALS SAID THE STORY ORIGINATED WITH FORCIBLY RETIRED GM WHO WISHED TO GET BACK AT NCC IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE. UDOFFA SAID WATER WILL ACCUMULATE IN MINES WHENEVER NATIONAL ELECTRIC POWER AUTHORITY CUTS POWER AND STANDBY GENERATOR HAPPENS TO BE IN-

OPERABLE. AS SOON AS POWER IS RESTORED, MINE IS PUMPED DRY AGAIN.

4. EMBOFF CURRENTLY TRAVELLING TO ENUGU WITH DEPUTY DESK OFFICER
MAY HAVE FURTHER REPORT ON THIS SITUATION.
WYMAN

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NNN

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